

Interrogation tactics

ABSTRACT

This thesis deals with interrogation tactics. The topic is still relevant as it is one of the most important and used criminal evidence. The aim of this work was to summarize available knowledge from Czech and foreign literature about conducting the interrogation, with a focus on the mistakes caused by interrogators. In addition to describing these mistakes, the work also recommends how to avoid them. Practical examples were obtained from available case-law and interrogation protocols. The analytical-descriptive and comparative method of research was used.

The work is divided into five parts, introduction and conclusion. These parts are divided into individual chapters and subchapters.

The first part is focused on the interrogation from the perspective of criminalistics, criminal law and forensic psychology. It defines the meaning and the purpose of interrogation and statement, different types and legal regulation. It also deals with psychological aspects of interrogation tactics.

The second part discusses the preparation of the interrogation, an important aspect that should not be underestimated. The preparation is divided into analytical and synthetic phases.

The third part of the thesis describes the construction of the interrogation and its three stages – the initial phase, monologue and dialogue phases. It also deals with the process of documentation.

The following part is focused on the interrogation tactics, particularly on the basic methods and techniques, typical interrogation situations and some rarely used methods.

The last part of the thesis is more specifically devoted to the mistakes in conducting the interrogation and recommendations on how to prevent some of them. It deals with both intentional and unconscious aspects that may negatively affect the statement, such as the personality of the interrogator, interpersonal communication and perception and improper questioning methods. It also includes a chapter aimed at the false and coerced confessions.

The conclusion summarizes the knowledge obtained from the sources and interrogation records regarding of the most common mistakes caused by interrogators and some preventive suggestions.